

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 4 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

I. Telephonic Interview

Applicants appreciate the indication from Examiner Joyce on March 29, 2005, that the reference submitted as part of the March 15, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement has been considered and that the application would be allowable if withdrawn claim 4 were canceled. As claim 4 is canceled, the application is in condition for allowance.

II. Correction of Inventorship Under 37 C.F.R. §1.48(b)

The cancellation of claim 4 has resulted in fewer than all of the currently named inventors being the actual inventors of the remaining claimed subject matter in this application. Therefore correction of inventorship is requested to delete the names of Kazuhiro Ando, Kiyokazu Haruno and Masahiro Katoh as named inventors in this application. Thus, only Mikio Saito remains as a named inventor. A fee of \$130.00 is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i). Our check no. 165501 in the amount of \$130.00 is attached to cover this fee. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are attached.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 3 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John W. Fitzpatrick
Registration No. 41,018

JAO:JWF/axl

Attachment:

Check No. 165501 for \$130.00

Date: April 7, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
